# News Release
# Ministry of Northern Development and Mines

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## Ontario Invests In Reconstruction Of Highway 11 East Of Atikokan

McGuinty Government On The Side Of Northerners

THUNDER BAY – The Ontario government is undertaking an important highway rehabilitation project on Highway 11 near Atikokan, Thunder Bay-Atikokan MPP Bill Mauro announced today on behalf of Northern Development and Mines Minister Rick Bartolucci.

"I am pleased our government is moving forward on many upgrades to our region's highway infrastructure," said Mauro."Ensuring our region's highways are in good condition is important to supporting strong communities in the North."

The project involves rehabilitation work on nearly 30 kilometres of road beginning 12 kilometres west of the Highway 802 junction. Improvements will include partially paved shoulders, drainage upgrades to culverts and ditches, guide rail repairs, and road resurfacing. A contract tender in the amount of $8.2 million has been awarded to Miller Paving of Markham. The project is scheduled to be completed in August.

"Improving the transportation infrastructure across the North will better position communities for private sector investment and economic development," said Bartolucci. "Our government's record investments in highway rehabilitation and expansion are just one way we are helping to make the North a better place in which to live, travel or do business."

"Northern communities depend on our network of highways," said Transportation Minister Donna Cansfield. "Improved highways will improve safety, create jobs and foster prosperity throughout Northern Ontario."

The commitment to expand and rehabilitate northern highways was set out in ReNew Ontario, the province's five-year strategic infrastructure investment plan that will help prepare the North for future growth. The Ontario government is renewing and expanding vital highway infrastructure – including important routes such as Highway 11 – as part of its Northern Prosperity Plan. The plan is founded on four key pillars including: Strengthening the North and its Communities; Listening to and Serving Northerners Better; Competing Globally; and Providing Opportunities for All.

Since 2003, investments in infrastructure, postsecondary education, research and innovation and key economic sectors have helped strengthen Ontario's economic foundations and continue to build

opportunity.

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